
The EDI Wave

Volume 1 Issue 1

December 1997

Riding the Wave



Trading Partner Stats

DRMS has eight pilot Trading Partners. We are proud to announce that there are five pilot Trading Partners receiving Delivery Orders (DOs) via EDI. These are EETCO (Feb. 1997), Applied Technology, Inc. and Laidlaw Environmental Services (Aug 19, 1997), and Moheat and CSI (Sept 22, 1997). The other three partners are Philip Environmental, American Environmental Services and Chem-Met. Philip Environmental is finished with testing and will be in production in the near future. American Environmental Services is still in testing but will be ready for production soon. Chem-Met has yet to begin testing.

The five Trading Partners in production account for approximately 43 percent of our hazardous waste business (based on contract dollars). At the end of September 1997, we had sent a total of 358 Delivery Orders via EDI. A breakout is as follows: Laidlaw - 248; EETCO - 56; ATI - 47; Moheat - 5; and CSI - 2.

Status of EDI at DRMS

As everyone is aware, DRMS is transmitting DOs via the EDI transaction set known as the 850. DRMS then receives a Functional Acknowledgment (or 997) and a Delivery Order Acknowledgment (or 855) from the Trading Partner. Both parties appear to be transmitting and receiving this information with very little problems. The next step for DRMS is the DO Modification (Mod) or 860 and the DO Mod Acknowledgment or 865.

After the Modifications comes the HW Manifest (856) to identify the movement of waste and the HW Receiving Report (861) to identify receipt at the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility. The programming for this area is scheduled to begin in July 1998. It is estimated that the programming efforts will take approximately four months. DRMS plans to be in testing of this area by November 1998.

After the manifesting portion is done, DRMS will begin the programming of the Evaluated Receipts Settlement. With this DRMS will invoice on behalf of the contractor. In addition, the Authority for Acceptance of Services will move from DFAS to the Contracting Officers at DRMS. DFAS will disburse the funds and then issue remittance advice (820) to the contractors and DRMS.

Delays

As with many companies these days, DRMS is undergoing various changes in order to do business in a more efficient manner.

One of these changes greatly affects the manifesting area of our EDI initiative. This change is the Base Operations Support Service (BOSS) Hazardous re-host. The BOSS Hazardous re-host, which is governed by DLA, is scheduled for completion in July 1998. The manifesting programming can not begin

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Delays (cont'd)

until this is completed. DRMS is doing everything it can to speed up the re-host since this does affect our timeline and completion of the EDI circle.

DoDAAC

Several Trading Partners have expressed concerns over the issue of the DoDAAC. The DoDAAC information will be available on new awards; however, there is a concern for current awards. On September 15, 1997, DRMS sent each Trading Partner a letter with a Website address that provided information on each DoDAAC. From various conversations with the Trading Partners, it is apparent that it is not always possible to access this site. Due to this issue, DRMS is thinking of various ways the DoDAAC address can be received.

One way is for the contractors to set up their own database with the various DoDAACs and addresses. This way when the DoDAAC is sent in the 850, the contractor can pull the information from their own database. DRMS is looking into other possibilities so keep a look out for more information on this subject.

Going Paperless

Trading Partners are receiving 850s via EDI but they are also getting a hard copy and often a faxed copy of the Delivery Order. This seems a little too much considering the purpose of EDI is to reduce the amount of paper generated. DRMS wants to do away with the paper copies. The Trading Partners would need to print out a copy of the 850 transaction so that this could be signed by the COR (even a flat file will do).

There is a concern about the blocks shown on the DD Form 1155 not showing up on the EDI transaction (i.e., EPA Waste Code, Pick Up Manifest, Line Code, Authorized Transporter Name, Authorized TSDF Name, etc.). This is not really a problem as these will be taken care of under the BOSS Hazardous re-host. Until that time however, it is suggested that this information be written manually on the hard copy produced by the Trading Partner. Though not high tech it will get the job done. The Trading Partners can opt to get a copy of the 1155 from the DRMO at the time of pickup after the necessary information has been filled out by both parties. If the Trading Partner's copy is used, DRMS realizes that each may be different. This is not a problem since the basic information is the same for each partner. It is also possible for each Trading Partner to set up his software to look like the DD Form 1155, lines and all.

A timeframe for going paperless has not been set but it will be sometime in the near future. Sufficient notice will be given before this occurs. Once paperless DOs are being received, DO modifications will be close behind. Let's work together as a team to bring EDI full circle.

Streamlined Manifests

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reworked a 1993 draft rule to modify the hazardous waste manifest, and is considering a streamlined electronic reporting system for hazardous waste shipments. This was stated by an EPA official on November 20, 1997.

EPA is developing several options to reduce the paperwork burden of identifying and tracking hazardous waste shipments. They include making the manifest completely uniform among all the states and developing an electronic system for preparing, sending, and storing the manifests. EPA expects to issue a proposed rule on the manifest changes in October 1998, and will hold meetings in December 1997 and January 1998 to get public response on the possible changes.

The agency is also considering making the manifests available on the Internet, though this would eliminate revenue from some states that charge for the forms. EPA also is mulling a limited exemption from manifesting requirements for

Streamlined Manifests (cont'd)

generators and shippers of lower-risk wastes. These options will be presented to state regulatory officials, the hazardous waste industry and the public at two upcoming meetings scheduled for December 10-11, 1997 in Washington, D.C., and January 7-8, 1998, in San Francisco. These meetings are designed to get some feedback on the options early in the rulemaking process. The first day of each of the two-day meetings will be open to state hazardous waste regulators only. The second day of each meeting will be open to the public. The December 10-11, 1997, meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, in Arlington, Va. The Jan. 7-8, 1998, meeting will be held at the Sheraton Fisherman's Wharf Hotel in San Francisco. For generation information, contact the RCRA Hotline at 800-824-9346. In the Washington, D.C. area, the hotline number is (703) 412-9810. For more specific information, contact Allen Maples, Office of Solid Waste, EPA, (703) 308-8798.

A notice of the meeting and registration form can be found at EPA's World Wide Web. The address is as follows:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/new.htm>

Communicate

DRMS is interested in receiving your opinion and input. Please submit your questions, concerns or ideas to any of the POCs listed below. DRMS is here to work with the Trading Partners so that all can "Ride the Wave". Direct questions will be answered to the interested party. Issues that affect all will be addressed in the next issue of the EDI Wave. Hope to hear from you. Lets keep the lines of communication open.

Sheila Rayburn, (616)961-7586 (srayburn@drms.dla.mil)

Cathy Bednar, (616)961-7309 (cbednar@drms.dla.mil)

Kathy Smalley, (616)961-4073 (ksmalley@drms.dla.mil)